

## **NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Brodie Castle to be transformed into a Fun Palace**

Brodie Castle is celebrating the skilled people within its community as the magnificent ancestral home of the Brodie family transforms into a Fun Palace of arts, music, science and more on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th October.

The castle, which is cared for by the National Trust for Scotland, will be home to a range of fun activities for all the family, with staff and volunteers from the local community sharing the secrets of their own skills and hobbies, and leading sessions to encourage community-led transformation.

Workshops will be led throughout the day from 11 am to 4pm (with the last workshop beginning at 3pm) and activities range from hut painting and coin collecting to flower arranging and ceilidh dancing. There will even be the chance to make origami toads in the same bedroom that the wife of the 24th Brodie clan chief kept toads 100 years ago.

There will also be a unique opportunity to ask Brodie's Head Gardener, Ed for his top tips on gardening and learn how to look after a castle with Head of Housekeeping & Collections.

The free event is just one of a number across the North of Scotland happening this weekend (5 and 6 October) held by Fun Palaces, a campaign promoting community at the heart of culture and culture at the heart of community. This is held annually by and for local people.

Alexandra Boag, visitor services supervisor at Brodie Castle, said: "Brodie Castle is a place full of history and wonder, but this weekend it will offer even more than usual. It's not often people have the chance to take part in a fencing workshop, gardening Q & A and photography lesson all at the same place, so it's really exciting.

"This is a great opportunity for local people of all ages to come along, see the castle, and try something new – who knows, maybe they might become an enthusiast themselves."

The Trust's Regional Fun Palaces organiser Katey Boal commented on the events, saying: "We're so pleased with the wide range of fun activities across all of our properties for the local community to join in. We will be celebrating the often-

hidden skills of our brilliant volunteers and we're looking forward to welcoming lots of locals to learn new skills, including knitting, spinning, art, gardening, music workshops, mini beast hunting and storytelling and much more."

Further Fun Palace events are being supported by the National Trust for Scotland across a number of its other properties, including Culloden, Abertaff House, Inverewe Garden and Hugh Miller's birthplace cottage in Cromarty.

For more information on the events at Brodie Castle this weekend, visit <https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/events/brodie-fun-palaces>, and you can find out more about the Fun Palaces at <http://funpalaces.co.uk/about/what-is-a-fun-palace/>.

